

City of Cincinnati



Mayor John Cranley

May 13, 2015

Dear Council Members,

I am transmitting to you a copy of the City Manager's Recommended 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget ("proposed budget") for review and also making a copy available to the general public via the City's website.

For the second consecutive year, a structurally balanced budget has been proposed that places an emphasis on fiscal sustainability.

It is my belief that the City Manager's proposed budget generally makes sound and reasonable fiscal recommendations, including strategic investments designed to continue Cincinnati's recent momentum on economic growth.

Most important, this budget will take our inventory of roads from being rated as "fair" and "deteriorating" to "good" and "improving."

Additionally, the proposed budget includes performance metrics for the first time to create greater accountability for City departments. It also funds an important priority, the City's first-ever Department of Economic Inclusion. This initiative will help minority- and women-owned businesses navigate the process to bid for municipal contracts and ensure a level playing field.

In the next few weeks, we will discuss the proposed budget and solicit input from residents. I am looking forward to working cooperatively with you all in what's sure to be a lively and productive budget deliberation. I recommend passage without amendment, but will work with you on reasonable changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Cranley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mayor John J. Cranley,
City of Cincinnati